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Title: *The Cerefy(r) Atlas of Brain Anatomy - An Interactive Reference Tool for Students, Teachers and Researches Version 1.0*  
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This Atlas of Brain Anatomy is a very user-friendly and interactive application on CD-ROM (approx. 16MB). It is primarily aimed at medical and paramedical students educators and researchers. However it can be utilised by the experienced health professional; wanting to either learn or consolidate their knowledge of human brain neuro-anatomy.

The atlas contains axial, coronal and sagittal T1 weighted MRI images of the brain. With around 100 images and over 1,500 individual structures identified and labelled (including 135 names of subcortical structures and cortical areas), it is very comprehensive.

It is simple to install and can run on both PC and MAC platforms. The recommended PC requirements are: 64 MB of installed RAM or greater, Pentium III processor and either Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT 4.0 or later. The MAC recommendations are: 64 MB of installed RAM or greater and iMAC system or above. It is also recommended that the screen display be at least 800 x 600 pixels or higher for improved spatial resolution and the colour palette set to 16 bit or greater for optimum contrast resolution.

The main features of this CD-ROM are the Explore Mode and the Test Mode.

With the Explore Mode, the user is capable of selecting an image slice in any orthogonal plane. Ingeniously, coloured patterns corresponding to the shape and dimensions of anatomical structures are overlaid and the user can either place their mouse cursor over the coloured anatomical structure to see the name of it highlighted at the top right of screen and also appear adjacent to the cursor. Alternatively, the user can highlight the structure listed at the top right of screen with the mouse cursor and then the coloured overlay covering the anatomical structure will flash for a few seconds so that it can be identified.

The intensity of the coloured shapes can be varied by using the sliding scale on the top left of screen. For example, on one extreme of the scale, the coloured shapes can be made bright and dense. At the middle of the scale the coloured shapes are "see through" so that the user can see some colour and also recognise the anatomy. At the other extreme, the coloured shapes can be

completely removed so that all that remain MRI image.

This feature can be utilised for the Test Mode, the user must activate that they would like to test themselves. The orthogonal plane and image slice has been chosen and allows the user to choose from two functions. The first function tests the user by randomly highlighting a particular anatomical structure (top right of screen). The user attempts to identify it from the image slice. If the user is unable to identify the anatomical structure following three attempts, then the corresponding coloured shape will appear and flash for a few seconds overlying it.

With the "what is?" function, one coloured pattern overlies an anatomical structure and the user is asked to identify its correct name from the corresponding image list at the top right of screen. Only the structures that appear on the selected image slice will appear listed.

With both functions, a score is tracked on the lower right of screen. Three points are awarded for a correct answer at the first attempt, two points for the second attempt and one point for the third attempt. If all three attempts are wrong, then no points are awarded. The score summary tallies the total number of structures tested, the total score and a mark expressed as a percentage.

By clicking on the Overview electronic button, the user can access the detailed information pertaining to gross regions such as lobes of the brain, cortical areas, gyri, corticothalamic connections etc. Their function and interconnections with other structures are explained. This index further explains the referencing system of imaginary lines used such as the CA-CP line and the VCA line. International nomenclature for abbreviations are listed in alphabetical order and explained. Also incorporated is Orisson's Glossary of the finer brain structures and their function (this is imported from a previous Thieme publication, The Atlas of Brain Function by Dr W.W. Orrison Jr, MD).

This particular CD-ROM atlas further emphasises Thieme's dedication to publishing and distributing medical imaging products. Past products that readers may be familiar with include, CT teaching Manual and Ultrasound Teaching Manual. It is very easy to load and install. To run the program however, the CD-ROM must be in the computer's CD-drive every time. This is a modern system of learning and self-testing of brain anatomy and would make an excellent supplementary learning tool for radiography students (and even radiology registrars!) and those beginning post-graduate studies in for example, MRI. It can also provide a new and worthwhile approach by radiographers already working in CT and MRI who are seeking to consolidate their anatomical knowledge. A range of allied health students both undergraduate and postgraduate, may also benefit from this program.

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